

**CLAIMS**

**What Is Claimed Is:**

- 5        1. An implantable stimulation lead system, comprising:  
              a lead including a lead body dimensioned for placement  
              inside the coronary sinus region, the lead body having at least one  
              electrode positioned at a distal end of the lead body, the distal end  
              of the lead body including a distal tip, the lead further having a  
              10      lumen extending the length of the lead and communicating with an  
              aperture in the distal tip; and  
              a device dimensioned for insertion within the lumen, the  
              device including:  
                  a main body;  
              15      a steering knob secured to a proximal extremity of the  
              main body; and  
              a flexible distal portion secured to a distal extremity of  
              the main body, the main body having a length such that,  
              with the main body of the device substantially completely  
              20      advanced within the lead, the flexible distal portion of the  
              device projects distally from the aperture in the distal tip of  
              the lead body.
2. The lead system defined in claim 1 in which:  
              25      the main body and the flexible distal portion of said device  
              comprise a unitary structure.
3. The lead system defined in claim 1 in which:  
              30      the main body and flexible distal portion of said device  
              comprise separate structures joined at the distal extremity of the  
              main body.

4. The lead system defined in claim 1 in which:  
the main body is formed of wire.

5. The lead system defined in claim 4 in which:  
the flexible distal portion of the device comprises a wire coil.

6. The lead system defined in claim 5 in which:  
the wire coil comprising the flexible distal portion of the  
device has an outer diameter equal to that of the main body.

10 7. The lead system defined in claim 5 in which:  
the wire coil comprising the flexible distal portion of the  
device has an outer diameter smaller than that of the main body.

15 8. The lead system defined in claim 4 in which:  
the flexible distal portion of said device comprises a  
proximal section and a distal section, the distal section being more  
flexible than the proximal section.

20 9. The lead system defined in claim 8 in which:  
the proximal section and the distal section of the distal  
portion of the device comprise wire coils.

25 10. The lead system defined in claim 9 in which:  
the wire coil comprising the distal section has an outer  
diameter smaller than that of the wire coil comprising the proximal  
section.

30 11. The lead system defined in claim 10 in which:  
the wire coil comprising the proximal section has an outer  
diameter substantially the same as that of the main body.

12. The lead system defined in claim 10 in which:  
the wire coil comprising the proximal section has an outer  
diameter smaller than that of the main body.

5 13. The lead system defined in claim 8 in which:  
the proximal and distal sections comprise a unitary  
structure.

10 14. The lead system defined in claim 13 in which:  
the proximal and distal sections are cylindrical, the proximal  
section having an outer diameter smaller than that of the main  
body and the distal section having an outer diameter smaller than  
that of the proximal section.

15 15. The lead system defined in claim 13 in which:  
the proximal section is cylindrical and has a diameter  
smaller than that of the main body, and wherein the distal section  
comprises a thin leaf.

20 16. The lead system defined in claim 15 in which:  
the thin leaf has a rectangular shape, the leaf having a width  
equal to the diameter of the proximal section.

25 17. The lead system defined in claim 16 in which:  
the flexible distal portion of the device includes a wire coil  
surrounding the proximal and distal sections of the flexible distal portion.

30 18. The lead system defined in claim 17 in which:  
the thin leaf includes a distal tip, the wire coil surrounding  
the proximal and distal sections of the flexible distal portion having  
an end attached to the distal tip of the thin leaf and another end  
attached to the distal extremity of the main body.